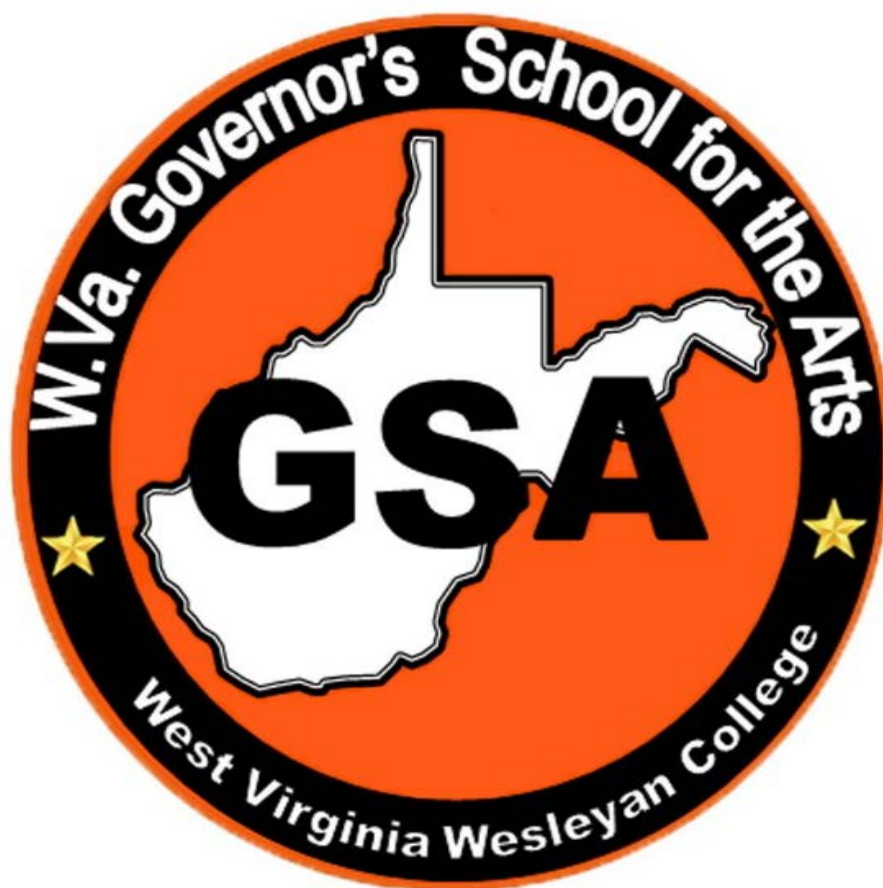


# 2016 West Virginia Governor's School for the Arts



A Handbook for Students and Families  
June 26- July 16, 2016  
West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts

## FOREWORD

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin and the Department of Education and the Arts proudly present the West Virginia Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) 2016 at West Virginia Wesleyan College in the historic city of Buckhannon, West Virginia. This unique program celebrates the achievement and potential of 128 of the state's most promising young artists.

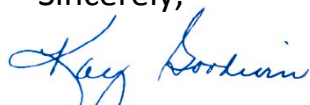
The opportunity to live on a college campus for three weeks while being immersed in a community of arts makes GSA an unforgettable experience.

Governor's Schools are truly a community effort. Funded by the legislature as requested in the governor's budget, all of the Governor's Schools of West Virginia are administered by the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts.

This handbook provides important information; therefore, students and their families are encouraged to read and discuss it. It is imperative that each understands the importance and responsibility of attending a governor's school. If you have any questions, please contact the Director of Governor's Schools Sherry Keffer at (304) 558-2440 or by email at [Sherry.L.Keffer@wv.gov](mailto:Sherry.L.Keffer@wv.gov)

I am happy to congratulate you for nurturing your great talent and for having the wisdom to know that GSA is the place where you should spend three wonderful weeks this summer. I am also happy to commend your parents for the support they have given you as you strive to reach the top. You make West Virginia proud!

Sincerely,



Kay Goodwin, Cabinet Secretary Education and the Arts

## Introduction

Welcome! We hope that the information provided in this handbook will answer the questions you may have about the Governor's School for the Arts (GSA). If, however, you do not find the answers for your particular concerns, please contact Keith Saine, dean of GSA at West Virginia Wesleyan College, or Sherry Keffer, director of the Governor's Schools of West Virginia. Your attendance at the GSA will be a unique and serendipitous opportunity for you to meet and interact with other students and adults in an enriched, relaxed arts environment where you may explore studies of particular interest to you. You will be living and learning on the campus of one of West Virginia's finest institutions of higher education as you represent your school, community, and county in this unique experience.

Your potential for learning will be challenged as you discover new horizons while broadening your life as an artist. Moreover, you will meet other talented young West Virginians whose friendships will support you throughout your lifetime.

Acceptance of this opportunity carries with it an agreement to behave with integrity and respect for others. You are to abide by all rules and regulations included in this handbook. These guidelines are necessary in order for you to have the best possible learning experience.

If you decide not to accept your invitation, you may not use your original acceptance in any application or news release. Only the artists completing GSA are recognized.

Read this booklet carefully to familiarize yourself with the information you will need in order to have a successful and enjoyable experience at the Governor's School for the Arts.



Sherry Keffer, director

Governor's Schools of West Virginia

## Student Policies

### Residency

- The Governor's School for the Arts is intended to be an intensive, residential learning experience; therefore, students are expected to remain on campus for the duration of the school, including weekends. Parents, family and friends are not to visit.
- Exceptions to this policy can be granted only in the event of an emergency. You will need to request permission from the dean, stating the nature of the emergency and inform your resident assistant of the expected times for leaving and returning before you leave campus. There is a 24-hour limit on emergency leave.

### Visitors

- Students are not to entertain visitors who are not part of the Governor's School for the Arts.
- Students are not permitted to visit other groups or dormitories while on campus.
- Students may visit with members of the opposite gender in the dorm lounge or common areas only. Visitation with the opposite sex in individual rooms is not permitted and will result in dismissal from GSA.
- Non-participants (legislators, the media, etc.) who wish to observe the instructional programs or special events must register in advance in the assistant dean's office.
- All approved and registered guests must wear a GSA visitor identification tag for the duration of the visit. Tags/badges are to be returned to the GSA office at the end of all scheduled visits.

### Motor Vehicles

Students are not permitted to ride in any motor vehicle except those provided by the GSA staff. Students are not allowed to have a car at the Governor's School. Visitors' vehicles are to be parked only in the designated areas--even on opening day.

### Medical Information

Students and parents are responsible for providing up-to-date, valid medical information on the forms that are posted on the website following this handbook. Information will be stored in the GSA office.

## Participation and Attendance

- Students are required to attend all regularly scheduled classes and special events. They are expected to participate actively in these instructional activities, since this is the primary purpose of being invited to the GSA.
- Students will receive a copy of the daily schedule upon arrival at the GSA. The location and time of special events will be announced.
- If it is necessary to miss a class or event due to an emergency, the student must report in advance to the teacher or RA in charge of the event, the anticipated absence, and its reason.
- Students are required to follow established travel schedules and dormitory curfews.
- Class time and evening/weekend activity times are for learning and focus. There are no personal electronic devices, computers or cell phones permitted in the classroom or at activities.

## Disciplinary Action

As a representative of your school, community and county, you are expected to be an exemplary citizen. Certain behavior is incompatible with the philosophy of the Governor's Schools. Disciplinary action in response to misbehavior is the responsibility of *all* staff members.

- There are three levels of discipline, the use of which is determined by the nature, frequency, or severity of the infraction:
  - **Verbal reprimand** by staff with written notice to the dean of the GSA;
  - **Written warning** by the dean (Notice of Disciplinary Probation), copies of which will be sent to the parent or guardian and to the student's school counselor;
  - **Dismissal** by the dean
- Final decisions regarding dismissal from the governor's school will be made by the dean in consultation with the appropriate faculty, resident director, assistant dean, and the Director of Governor's Schools.
- Should a student be dismissed, parents or guardians will be contacted immediately by the dean. A parent or guardian must pick up a dismissed student within 12 hours of dismissal. During the time that the dismissed student is waiting to be picked up, he or she will pack his/her belongings under staff supervision and be separated from other

GSA students. A letter stating the student's name and reason for dismissal will be sent to the parent or guardian, high school principal and county superintendent of schools.

- Destroying or damaging property, which could result in a written warning of probation or dismissal, is a serious matter that requires full compensation.
- Other reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to, the following violations:
  - absence from campus without permission;
  - any unexcused absence;
  - disobeying visitation policies;
  - use or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances *at any time*;
  - unauthorized use of a vehicle;
  - riding in an unauthorized vehicle with another person;
  - tampering with fire alarms or security systems;
  - harassment;
  - failure to follow the resident life staff, faculty or campus security's direction;
  - behavior unbecoming of a member of GSA

## Causes for Immediate Dismissal

Students who leave campus without authorization, engage in activities threatening the safety of others, or violate the tobacco, alcohol and controlled substance abuse rule will be dismissed immediately. There will be no second chances.

Be advised that West Virginia Wesleyan College and the West Virginia Governor's School for the Arts will cooperate with all local and legal authorities with regard to investigations of illegal activities.

## Electronic Device Use

Electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones, tablets, iPods, mp3 players, CD players, etc., will not be permitted for use or to be visible during morning meeting, instructional time, performances, the walk between classes or performances on or off-campus, or during other times as identified. The ability to use devices during free time, lunch, and other approved times will be treated as a privilege that may be revoked for individuals or the group at any time as deemed necessary. Abuse of the policy could ultimately result in confiscation of the device(s) in question.

# West Virginia Wesleyan College

## Our Mission

West Virginia Wesleyan College challenges its students to a life-long commitment to develop their intellectual, ethical, spiritual, and leadership potential and to set and uphold standards of excellence. Firmly rooted in the liberal arts tradition and closely related to the United Methodist Church, the College is a community of learning based on fundamental principles formed at the intersection of Christian faith and liberal education: intellectual rigor, self-discovery, human dignity, mutual support, social justice, self-discipline, mental and physical wellness, the appreciation of diversity and the natural world, and the judicious use of resources. The College recognizes and affirms its interdependence with the external communities – local, regional, national, and global – and its covenant with the people of West Virginia to share its educational and cultural resources.

## Our Campus

Founded in 1890, West Virginia Wesleyan College is a private residential college that is affiliated with the United Methodist Church. The College has 1,400 students and offers 44 majors and 34 minors along with graduate programs in athletic training, business administration, education, English creative writing, and nursing. A “Best Southeastern College” in *The Princeton Review* for 11 consecutive years, Wesleyan was the only institution of higher education in West Virginia to be listed in the *U.S. News and World Report's Best Colleges* “Great Schools at Great Prices” category in 2013. Wesleyan's Learning Center was ranked second in the nation in 2012, and 15 students have been named international scholarship winners, including 11 Fulbright Scholars during the past six years. For these and other reasons, Wesleyan has been the number one private school for West Virginia PROMISE Scholars every year since the program's inception in 2002.

## Our Location

West Virginia Wesleyan is located in Buckhannon, WV, a college town with a population of 7,500. A biking and walking river trail is adjacent to the campus. The town offers a number of unique shopping opportunities in addition to a thriving farmers' market and a micro-theater that brings international and independent films to the area. The town is a popular destination each May for the annual West Virginia Strawberry Festival and during the summer months

because of the many flowers that are displayed throughout its streets. Buckhannon was recently featured in *The Smithsonian Magazine* and is included in Norman Crampton's *100 Best Small Towns in America*. The West Virginia Wildlife Center is located 15 miles south of Buckhannon, and there are several West Virginia state parks, ski resorts, and biking trails located within 1 ½ hours of West Virginia Wesleyan College.

For photos and a complete description of each campus building, go to the Campus Tour on the West Virginia Wesleyan College website.

## Overnight Accommodations

The Governor's Schools of West Virginia neither endorse nor recommend any of the facilities listed. The listing is presented for informational purposes only.

### **The Bicentennial Hotel**

90 East Main St., Buckhannon, WV 26201 (304) 472-5000

### **Hampton Inn**

1 Commerce Boulevard, Buckhannon, WV 26201 (304) 473-0900

### **Microtel Inn and Suites**

2 N Ridge Dr., Buckhannon, WV 26201 (304) 460-2525

## Recreation

The Residence Life staff plans a number of activities. There is an indoor pool and fitness center on campus. There may be opportunities for basketball, tennis, and other outdoor activities.

## Medical Services

GSA at West Virginia Wesleyan College is just five minutes away from St. Joseph's Hospital in Buckhannon. Parents are responsible for all medical expenses incurred during the governor's school including emergency transport costs. All medications, whether prescription or over the counter, **must be reported** on the medical forms. Please alert the governor's school staff of any medical or food allergies or special medical problems so we may make proper arrangements.

## Banking

Do not bring large amounts of cash. ATM cards are a safer alternative. Any student with an ATM card for a hometown bank will be able to withdraw money; ATM fees may apply. There is a Huntington Bank ATM on campus. Additionally, there is a Chase Bank ATM and several ATMs associated with local banks in Buckhannon.

## Church Services

When the GSA is not traveling, students will have the opportunity to attend Sunday morning services at a selection of local churches. At least one Protestant and one Catholic service will be available to students who wish to attend a Christian worship service.

## Living Accommodations

### Your Room

You will live in Dunn Hall on the West Virginia Wesleyan College campus. Dunn Hall is a four-story residence facility that was newly constructed in 2011, employing an architectural design that integrates elements of the historical and contemporary architecture of the campus in its design. It is home to 143 students who live in suite-style rooms with shared bathrooms. Study lounges and social lounges are located on each floor, and there is a kitchenette and a laundry room on the first floor. (See Residence Hall Services). The Hall has several bathrooms and lounges on each floor.

### Residential Responsibilities

#### **Check-In Procedure**

Upon arriving to campus, you will check in at the front desk of Dunn Hall.

A Room Condition Report (RCR) will be completed prior to your arrival by your Resident Assistant. This RCR reflects the condition of your room so that any damages caused will be billed accordingly. Your parent or designee is to be present at both check-in and check-out.

#### **Check-Out Procedure**

You will need to Check-Out with the GSA staff prior to your departure. You will need to turn in your key at the front desk; do not leave your key in your room and leave. Anyone who does not turn the key into the GSA staff at the front desk will be billed with a \$50.00 "Improper Checkout" charge.

- When you arrive at GSA, the residence hall rooms will be clean, and you are to leave them in the same condition when checking out. A room inspection form will be completed upon move-in with the assigned resident advisor, and another inspection form will be completed prior to move-out. Your parent or designee is to be present at both sign-in and sign-out. If someone other than your parent picks you up on the final day, written arrangements must be made beforehand.
- You and your suitemates will be responsible for the maintenance and cleaning of your assigned room as well as any activity in the room. You and your parents will be financially responsible for any damages to the suite.
- Cleaning your bedroom, bathroom and common area of your suite is your responsibility. All persons should be respectful of their suitemates and maintain an orderly suite.

- Sheets (twin-sized), pillows, pillowcases, blankets and towels will not be provided. Bring your own.
- You will be issued a key to your room. There is a charge of \$150.00 for a lost key, because not only will the key have to be replaced, but also the lock on the door.
- Dunn Hall will be reserved exclusively for the use of GSA.
- Do not hang items out of or on the windows. This is a fire safety regulation.
- Do not hang any items on sprinklers or fire alarms.
- If you bring snacks for your room, keep them in airtight containers.
- Possession or use of tobacco products is forbidden.
- Alcoholic beverages, chemical substances or drugs of any kind, excluding prescription or approved over-the-counter drugs, are strictly prohibited while attending GSA.
- Students must be in the residence hall by 10 p.m. If an activity lasts beyond 10 p.m., you will have 15 minutes to reach your room upon conclusion of the event. Quiet hours for the dormitory will be posted and must be observed. Quiet hours will be from 11 p.m. 7 a.m. every day. Noise levels must be kept to a minimum.
- Don't play your radio or other music devices so that music can be heard outside your room.
- Keep your room locked at all times when you or your roommates are gone. Windows on the lower floors should also remain closed and locked; report missing items to the resident director immediately.
- You must wear your GSA name tag at all times you are out of your dorm room.

## Residence Hall Services

- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are served in the nearby Benedum Student Center; hours will be announced when you arrive. A salad bar is available during lunch and dinner. If you have special dietary requirements, please provide such information to Assistant Dean John Waltz (waltz\_jwvwc.edu or 304-473-8360) as soon as possible.
- The residence hall has a television set available in the lounge area.
- Laundry machines will be provided free of cost courtesy of West Virginia Wesleyan College.
- No telephones are provided in dorm rooms. Students may bring cell phones, but the cell phones are not to be taken from the residence hall during class time or evening programs.
- Mail will be delivered to students Monday-Friday. Please address student mail as follows:

**Student's Name**

**West Virginia Wesleyan College - Governor's School for the Arts**

**59 College Avenue**

**Buckhannon, WV 26201**

## Pertinent Safety Procedures

All students must sign a medical release form and report to the dean any medical conditions that may require monitoring, as well as any prescribed medication that the student is taking. A copy of the student's health insurance card is to be attached to the health form.

### Be Safe

- Always let your roommate know where you are going.
- Never loan your room key.
- Never play with fire equipment.
- Do not prop open a fire door.
- Be sure to travel with a friend as much as possible.
- Report any suspicious people to your resident advisor immediately.
- At an early point in the Governor's School, a fire drill plan will be explained and a fire drill will be held. When the alarm sounds, you must leave your room and exit the building to report to a designated area where roll will be taken. You will return to the building with your resident advisor after the building has been cleared by security.
- Stay in chaperoned groups in all off-campus field trips.

## Dress and Grooming

Dress should be casual but tasteful. You will need dress clothes for two activities. For boys, this means a jacket and tie. Girls shall wear dresses/slacks suitable for attendance at banquets or dressy church occasions—not those for a formal dance. For your own safety, it is required that you wear shoes at all times when you are outside the residence hall. Shoes and shirts are required in classrooms, activity locations and the dining hall. Offensive writing on clothing is strictly prohibited.

### Specific Clothing You Will Need

- A variety of shirts, blouses
- Tops of different weights (for rooms that are too cool)
- Shorts
- Jeans/slacks
- Belt(s)
- One or two dressy outfits
- Tennis shoes

- Shoes (dress, casual, athletic)
- Swimsuit
- Beach towel
- Sleepwear
- Bathrobe and bedroom slippers
- Sweater (for cool evenings)
- Rain gear
- Lightweight jacket
- Umbrella
- Small backpack or sackpack
- Fashion accessories

## Articles You'll Need for Your Room

- Sheets (twin extra long)
- Pillowcases
- Pillow
- Blankets
- Towel/washcloth
- Shower shoes
- Toiletries
- Clothes hangers
- Small Wastepaper Basket

## Articles You May Like Having for Your Room

- Desk lamp to supplement overhead lighting
- Radio/iPod
- Basket for toiletries
- Camera
- Games
- Personal sports equipment (basketball, shin guards, etc.)
- Alarm clock
- Musical instruments
- Hair dryer
- Cosmetics/toiletries
- Telephone/phone cards

## Items You May Not Bring

- Television
- Toaster

- Hot plate/pot
- Toaster oven
- Popcorn popper
- Air conditioner
- Coffee pot
- Refrigerator
- Fan
- Cooking appliance of any kind
- Microwave
- Grills of any kind
- Exercise equipment
- Desktop Computer
- Skateboard/bike
- Candles/Incense
- Two-pronged extension cords and plug adapters

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q.** If I am selected for another honor during the summer, may I come to GSA for part of the time and then leave a few days early to be in another program? What if there's a family wedding?

**A:** The commitment to GSA is for the full 21 days; therefore, you may not be excused for such activities.

**Q.** Will there be time to check e-mail?

**A.** There are times during the day when students may use the college computers to check e-mail or to do computer research.

**Q.** Can my parents visit during GSA?

**A.** No. GSA is designed so that you can be totally focused on the activities planned for you. Parents and other family members are not permitted to visit. Families in close proximity to Buckhannon need to pay special heed to this. It is easy to drop by to deliver cookies or laundry, but do not do so. Parents are invited to two activities: the opening ceremony and the final Sharing of the Arts.

**Q.** Will attending GSA enhance my scholarship opportunities?

**A.** Some colleges and universities within the state as well as some out-of-state art schools award financial aid over and above other scholarships for students who attended GSA for the full time. You will need to check with the financial aid officer at the institution where you wish to study to see if such a scholarship is offered. There

is not a GSA Scholarship connected with the Governor's Schools program itself.

**Q.** Will I have to stay in chaperoned groups when we leave campus for field trips?

**A.** Yes. When you are off campus, the rules are tighter, simply because the outside environment is no longer simple.

**Q.** Will I really enjoy living with all these rules?

**A.** Students who attend the Governor's Schools say that they are the best experiences of their high school career. You will *not* be "giving up" your summer; instead, you will be growing in your craft, becoming a part of a larger community artists and making memories for a lifetime.

## Questions I Still Have

Please contact us with any questions you may have regarding the program. Make a list of your questions before calling or emailing for assistance. You can record your answers on the back of this page for future reference.

## June 26 notes

Students can move in to Residence Hall between **1 p.m.-3:15 p.m.** The opening ceremony begins at **3:30 p.m.** in Wesley Chapel at the center of campus.

## July 16 Notes

The "Sharing of the Arts" performance is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM in various locations on campus on the final day, July 16. Students are to be moved out of their dorm rooms before "Sharing of the Arts." Parents are encouraged to assist with this process.

Parents and family members are invited to attend lunch with us that day. Lunch will follow the Sharing of the Arts in the Dining Hall in the Benedum Student Center at no cost to the guests. Please RSVP if you plan on attending lunch by contacting GSA Assistant Dean John Waltz at [waltz\\_j@wwwc.edu](mailto:waltz_j@wwwc.edu) or (304) 473-8518. If you leave a message, be sure to mention how many are in your party.

## Advisory Council 2016

### Governor's Schools of W.Va. Advisory Council 2016

The Governor's Schools Advisory Council advises West Virginia's Secretary of Education and Arts regarding site selections, program offerings and procedures for student and faculty selection. The advisory council meets two times a year, usually in Charleston.

#### **Membership**

Mr. Rob Aliff  
Dr. Robert Baker  
Mrs. Carrie Bledsoe  
Dr. Christi Chambers  
Dr. Ryan Claycomb  
Dr. Sean Collins  
Ms. Saralyn Dague  
Mr. Bill Gibson  
Mrs. Gretchen Gibson  
Mrs. Pam Goots  
Secretary of Education and the Arts Kay Goodwin  
Mrs. Katie Hayes  
Ms. Kitty McCarthy  
Mrs. Vicky Mohnacky  
Dr. John O'Hara  
Mr. Mark Payne  
Mr. Keith Saine  
Mr. John Shirley  
Mr. John Waltz  
Mrs. Martha Woodward

#### **Student Representatives**

Lace Shoemake GHA  
David Sokolov GHA  
Juliana Tsuhlares GSA  
Adam Craig GSA

#### **Faculty Representatives**

Mr. Chris Edwards, GHA  
**Ex-Officio**--Sherry Keffer, director of Governor's Schools